



Yorkshire Cricket Southern Premier League

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Premier Section Cricket Committee

4th meeting – Monday 17th May – 7.30pm by Zoom

Note of Meeting

Present: Mark Beardshall (chair), Jason Booth, Chris Cobb, Mick Forrester, Chris Froggett, Bryan Lowe, Andrew Tipple (observer), Steve Ward

Apologies: Alex Fletcher, Andy Harrison

1 **Welcome.** MB welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 **Covid update**

- SW summarised the latest guidance as follows:
 - no changes to playing conditions
 - changing rooms can be opened subject to risk assessment & social distancing
 - teas may be served if clubs wish to – not to be forced to
 - hospitality can be provided subject to guidance
 - spectators are allowed
 - car-sharing is permissible for up to six persons or two households
- MB said that clubs need to be reminded to communicate with each other beforehand about facilities and requirements in the week before the match (*this has been in the weekly bulletin and there will be a reminder this week*)

3 **Premier Section Manager's report**

- SW referred to the forthcoming Captains' Meeting on 7 June and said that the main purpose is to talk about reporting in order to ensure we get what we need from the reporting system
- SW advised that it had been decided to use Play-Cricket as the main channel for emailing clubs, because this enables mail to be directed more effectively to the intended recipients
- Viking Cup – rearranged games will take place on 23/30 May – the next round is on 13 June
- Whitworth Cup – only one result was achieved on Sunday and the other ties are being rearranged – the next round is also on 13 June
- T20 Blast – ball distribution is underway and all clubs will have the balls in time for the group stages on 20 June and 25 July

4 **Compliance Manager's report**

- *Overseas players.* CF reported that there have been fewer overseas players than previously, with only eight professionals and a similar number of amateurs – some of these are already based in this country. The only issues raised have been about validity of student visas and observing quarantine.

- *Facilities*
 - CF said that rain tends to ‘sort out the wheat from the chaff’ – facilities often appear to be fine until it rains.
 - He said that there needs to be a ‘clear will across the League’ to tackle the issue of clubs that don’t meet standards and who don’t make the required effort to get the game on.
 - MB said that all clubs should approach every game as if they will play. He had spoken about raising standards at the pre-season meeting.
 - CF said that there seems to be an acceptance that some clubs will not meet standards. MB said that this is not acceptable. Umpires should be asked to report all failures and that clubs should be informed that if appropriate efforts are not made, sanctions can and will be taken. *MB/SW to take forward at LEB.*
 - MB said that there needs to be guidance to clubs now on covering the pitch and adjacent areas, what should be done during wet weather, etc, that could also be included to strengthen playing conditions next season. *SW to take forward.*
 - CF also raised the issue of Hallam CC, given that the availability of funding for a new pavilion has been significantly reduced due to Covid. MB agreed that the club should be asked for an update, including action taken as a result of the 2019 pitch report. *SW to take forward.*

5 **Equity & Diversity Group representative’s report**

- JB said that the group’s Terms of Reference and the player survey have now been agreed by the LEB and he will liaise with the website manager about publicity
- the initial objective of the group in settling in and getting known has been achieved
- the group will meet with the new YCB equalities officer

6 **Umpire’s representative’s report**

- BL said that concerns had been raised from an H&S angle about mobility issues in respect of one umpire, and the issue is being addressed
- umpires have been told to ‘work to the guidance’ on discipline – if an offence as specified in the guidance takes place, it should be dealt with accordingly – discipline is an issue that results in loss of umpires, and needs to be addressed
- work is being done on reports (see 3 above) and the intention is that these be used as good constructive criticism
- JB’s view was that umpiring standards were satisfactory, and he was supported by CC; JB said that the key issue for captains to assess is whether an umpiring error is a genuine mistake, or evidence that the umpire is ‘not up to the required standard for the level’, and said that he felt that the majority were in the first category

7 **Other business**

- SW raised the proposal that two former Doncaster League trophies were used for the Premier Division and T20 Blast winners. The committee was unanimously and strongly opposed to this, and believed that either new trophies, or continuing with the current glass trophies for clubs to retain – preferably both – was the appropriate way forward. *MB/SW to represent views at LEB.*
- A number of clubs have experienced difficulties with Play-Cricket registrations being refused, and prominent cricketers not being registered. MF described his experiences with this as ‘mind-numbing’. It was agreed that the trouble that this issue is causing member clubs should be reported back. *MB/SW to represent views at LEB.*

8 **Date of next meeting.** The next meeting will take place on 21 June 2021 (7.30pm by Zoom)

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.